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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,212	12/20/2001	Young-Min Kim	P56556	6131

7590

11/27/2002

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EXAMINER

CHEN, SOPHIA S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2852

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,212

Applicant(s)

KIM, YOUNG-MIN

Examiner

Sophia S. Chen

Art Unit

2852

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-9, 11-15 and 17-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 10 and 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 7-9, 12-15, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miura et al., JP 05-188840.

Miura et al. discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a photosensitive member 3; a pivot 5b or 8b inserted through a center of the photosensitive member 3 for rotatably supporting the photosensitive member 3 (paragraph 0035 and Figures 2 and 5); a mass body 5a or 8a being disposed at a predetermined distance from an inner circumference of the photosensitive member 3 (Figures 2 and 5); the mass body 5a or 8a comprising a cylinder which adds an evenly distributed load to the pivot 8b in a longitudinal direction thereof (Figures 2 and 5); and the mass body 5a being formed integrally with the pivot 5b (Figure 2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

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the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 11, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miura et al. in view of Ogasawara et al., JP 08-202206.

Miura et al., as discussed above, further discloses the mass body 8a being made of metallic or resin material (paragraph 0038), but differs from the instant claimed invention in not disclosing the mass body being made of rubber material.

Ogasawara et al. discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a photosensitive member 1; a pivot 3; and a mass body 7 being made of rubber material (paragraph 0016).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the rubber material as taught by Ogasawara et al. in place of the metallic material or resin material of Miura et al. because of the same functionality for reducing vibration of the photosensitive member (Ogasawara et al., abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5, 10, and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Other Prior Art

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Cais et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,075,955, discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a device and method for reducing noise and/or vibration by providing an insert inside of a photosensitive member.

Cais et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,131,003, discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a device and method for reducing noise and/or vibration by providing an insert inside of a photosensitive member.

Mark et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,438,338, discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a silencer assembly inside a photosensitive member.

Fritz et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,470,158, discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a device and method for reducing noise and/or vibration by providing an insert inside of a photosensitive member.

Tanaka et al., JP 10-268703, discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a photosensitive member; a mass body being disposed inside the photosensitive member; and the mass body having a cylinder.


Kurenuma et al., JP 11-038853, discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a photosensitive member; a mass body being inserted inside the photosensitive member; and the mass body being a heavy body made of aluminum or brass material.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sophia S. Chen whose telephone number is (703) 308-7617. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00-3:00) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on (703) 308-1373. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and (703) 305-3431 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


Sophia S. Chen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

SSC
November 25, 2002